

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-03

SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

TAR-02 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01 /143 W

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7399

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EG

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON'S VISIT TO EGYPT--SEPTEMBER

4-5.

REF: A. STATE 188846 B. STATE 186404 C. EC BRUSSELS 6423

1. SUMMARY: EUDE APPRECIATED FRANK U.S. REPORT ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPT AND FELT THIS OBLIGATED THE COMMISSION TO TREAT US SIMILARLY. HE SEES CHEYSSON'S VISIT AS THE FIRST EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHAT THE EGYPTIANS WANT TO INCLUDE IN AN EC/EGYPTIAN ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY.

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2. EUDE OF CHEYSSON'S CABINET WAS MOST THANKFUL FOR THE

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL B. HE SAID IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. ON OUR RESPECTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPT AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. HE PROMISED TO DEBRIEF US AFTER THE CHEYSSON TRIP.

3. EUDE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE DEGREE OF DETAIL IN THE U.S./EGYPTIAN TALKS, WHICH HE CONSIDERED A WARNING FOR THE CHEYSSON GROUP THAT THEY WOULD NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR SIMILAR PRECISION. THE PRIME PURPOSE OF CHEYSSON'S TRIP IS TO GET AN IDEA OF WHAT THE EGYPTIANS WISH TO INCLUDE IN AN ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY. THE COMMISSION WILL THEN KNOW WHAT TO SEEK AS A MANDATE FROM THE COUNCIL PRIOR TO THE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. EUDE SAYS IT IS TOO EARLY YET TO KNOW THE SIZE OF THE FINANCIAL ELEMENTS OF THE EC/EGYPTIAN PACKAGE. IN ANY CASE, MONEY IS NOT A PROBLEM SINCE THE EGYPTIANS CAN COUNT ON NEIGHBORING ARABS FOR ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT FOR EGYPT IN AN EC/EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT WILL BE THE LIST OF ITEMS FOR EC TARIFF CONCESSIONS. HE ANTICIPATED THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR THE EC TO AGREE ON TARIFF CONCESSIONS FOR EGYPTIAN GOODS THAN FOR MAGREB AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WAS THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF ANY EC/EGYPTIAN PACKAGE AND EUDE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE US/EGYPTIAN DISCUSSIONS ON JOINT INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WITH ASSISTANCE OF THIRD COUNTRY (ARAB) FINANCIAL BACKING. EUDE AGREED THAT, WITH REVERSE PREFERENCES BEING SIDELINED, THIS WOULD BE A ONE-SIDED NEGOTIATION--THE EGYPTIANS DOING ALL OF THE ASKING AND THE COMMUNITY DOING ALL OF THE GIVING.

5. CHEYSSON WANTS ARRANGEMENTS WITH SYRIA, LEBANON, JORDAN AND EGYPT TO PROGRESS ALONG SIMILAR SCHEDULES AND HOPES THAT AN EC/EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED WITHIN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

6. SHOULD THE EGYPTIANS BRING UP THE POLITICAL ISSUE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE CHEYSSON WOULD BE IN A POSITION ONLY TO LISTEN AND QUESTION SINCE THE ISSUE IS BEING HANDLED BY THE NINE MAINLY OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS (I.E., THE COMMISSION).

7. ALTHOUGH HE APPRECIATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO ARRANGE FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS TO BRIEF CHEYSSON, EUDE DOUBTED THAT IT WOULD BE DISCREET FOR THE EC COMMISSIONER TO PAY A CALL

ON THE U.S. AMBASSADOR, DURING THE MIDDLE OF A FORMAL PROGRAM ARRANGED BY THE EGYPTIANS, THOUGH THEY MIGHT HAVE SOME OCCASION TO MEET AT ONE OF THE SOCIAL GATHERINGS. CHEYSSON WOULD, OF COURSE, CALL ON THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE EC COUNCIL, BUT EUDE DOUBTED THAT CHEYSSON WOULD SEEK OUT OTHER FOREIGN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES. GREENWALD

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